

**Indiana Oral Health Coalition (IOHC) Minutes**  
**Friday, June 5, 2015**  
**Hosted by the**  
**Indiana State Department of Health**

Mission: The IOHC is a collective voice of individuals, groups, organizations, and businesses working together to promote, protect and provide for the oral health of the residents of Indiana.

**PRESENT:**

Leila Alter  
Doug Bush  
Diane Buyer  
Carla Chance  
Stephenie Cohen  
Ronnie Coleman  
Jennifer Denney  
Karen Ellis  
Marcus Fleagle  
Anita Gaillard

Mary Ryker Hernandez  
Joan E. Kowolik  
Jennifer Leeman  
Nancy K. Mann  
Gerardo Maupome  
Hannah Maxey  
James Miller  
Patty Morris  
Kayla Persinger  
Ed Rosenbaum

Holly Seabury  
Carolyn Snyder  
Elaine Williams  
Nancy Ward

**WELCOME**

Dr. Alter, Chair of the IOHC, opened the meeting at 10:13 a.m. by welcoming everyone and thanking them for coming.

**REVIEW MINUTES**

Dr. Alter asked if there were any corrections to the minutes from the last meeting; there were none. Dr. Alter asked for a motion and second to approve the minutes. A motion and second were offered and the Indiana Oral Health Coalition minutes from the March 13, 2015, meeting were approved as submitted by a unanimous voice vote.

**INTRODUCTIONS**

Everyone was allowed to introduce themselves and the organization they represent.

**PRESENTATIONS**

**I. Overview of the Program and Community Outreach Efforts – Dr. Joan E. Kowolik, Director of the IUSD Pre-doctoral Pediatric Dentistry**

As director of IU's predoctoral pediatric dentistry program, Dr. Kowolik's special interest is in children of the working poor, who often have inadequate oral healthcare and sometimes none at all. She is committed to exposing dental school students to these young patients' needs while the students are still in school. Student volunteers provide education and preventive services at community events, Head Start, Early Head Start, and schools throughout central Indiana.

IUSD has collaboration with Indianapolis's Jane Pauley Community Health Clinic, and it is staffed in part by IUSD faculty and volunteer students. Their prenatal care program teaches pregnant women the importance of dental care not only for themselves but how dental disease can be passed on to their baby. Mothers are also taught how to get into a routine where changing a diaper includes wiping the baby's gums, as well.

Dental disease causes physical pain and children cannot pay attention in school, they can't sleep well, they can't eat well, and they can't speak well. Another problem that young children face is the social pain and cruel treatment from other children because of their blackened, decayed teeth. Dr. Kowolik's dream is for school kids to arrive in school with no cavities.

Her program is organizing an interprofessional educational experience with nurse practitioners to teach them how to recognize dental problems in school children. Once the dental problems have been recognized, the professional can then refer parents to the Jane Pauley or Trinity dental clinics for their child's dental treatment at a low cost.

Dr. Kowolik reported that bottled water use (without fluoride) is having an impact on teeth. She suggests drinking tap water and, if you don't like the taste of it, adding a filter to the faucet. Another problem currently happening is that some bottled water manufacturers are adding an extra ingredient—sugar! They report that it makes the water taste better.

The Pediatric Dental Clinic at the IUSD serves children from birth to age 14 and can be contacted at 317-274-8111 for an appointment. They see children from six months after their first tooth arrives.

Dr. Kowolik said the best way to contact her with your questions is by email. Her email address is [jkowolik@iupui.edu](mailto:jkowolik@iupui.edu)

There was a question and answer session.

## **II. Overview of BRUSH! Early Oral Health Education Program – Ms. Holli Seabury, CEO of the McMillen Center for Health Education**

The McMillen Center provides face-to-face education to about 50,000 children and adults. In addition, they do the BRUSH! program that started three years ago, when Ms. Seabury was approached by Dr. Jim Fisher, an Endodontist in Fort Wayne. Dr. Fisher wanted to know what the McMillen Center was doing about the problem of severe dental decay in young children. Ms. Seabury looked into the issue and found it was a nationwide problem and she knew that the McMillen Center just had to do something about it. With funding from Dr. Fisher, the Isaac Knapp Foundation, and the Delta Dental Foundation, Ms. Seabury was able to develop an oral health curriculum for parents and educators at the Head Start and Early Head Start center. So far, the training has been given to 1,127 educators in Indiana and 4,000 nationwide. The BRUSH! program is being delivered to 11,000 children in Indiana and 40,000 children outside of Indiana; and it addresses the prevention of dental decay in infants and young children, using a comprehensive approach that involves parents, early childhood education professionals, and children. The curriculum layout of lessons is in different languages (English, Spanish, and Arabic in Detroit, MI).

Educators learn how to use the easy to understand "Flip Chart" and other parent resources during home visits. Teaching about oral health through home visits has been proven to be an effective way to reduce dental decay in young children. Ms. Seabury noted that WIC also uses the Flip Chart.

Parent materials are easy to understand, show the importance of primary teeth in growth and development, and provides information on dental care and how to brush children's teeth. It includes the importance on primary teeth (baby teeth) and nutrition. Publications and handouts for parents includes prenatal through age 5.

A weekly Text message goes out to participating parents to share with their child through !! 35350 Texts to children (thru their parent's cell phone). If interested, Text BRUSH!-35350 to get a weekly text message sent to your child that will entertain and educate them that teeth are important.

For questions, contact 888-240-7268 or [BRUSH!info@mcmillencenter.org](mailto:BRUSH!info@mcmillencenter.org)

There was a question and answer session.

### **OLD BUSINESS**

1. Dr. Alter reported on the loss of pediatricians in Lawrence County. They had seven pediatricians in Bedford but they lost five of them last year. Nurse practitioners are filling in for this loss but are not educated well with oral health. She is excited about the nurse practitioner program that BRUSH! is providing.
2. Recap on Mission of Mercy project that occurred in April 24-25, 2015, that provided free dental treatment at the Indiana State Fairgrounds in Indianapolis. Dr. German was absent at today's meeting, so Dr. Alter and Dr. Doug Bush explained how well the MOM project had done. The results are as follows:
  - a. 1,452 total volunteers,
  - b. 241 were dentists,
  - c. 126 were hygienists,
  - d. 209 were assistants,
  - e. Approximate value of treatment provided was \$896,000,
  - f. 1,211 patients (the majority were adults) were served,
  - g. 1,500 teeth were extracted,
  - h. 821 cavities were filled, and
  - i. 96 appliances were applied.

Dr. Bush explained that this is the first time that MOM had this event in Indiana. Even with the advanced promotions they were not as busy on Friday morning as they were on Saturday. So they are going to work on advertising and getting the word out to the public more in the future. The committee is searching for a Chair person to replace Dr. Bush. Another issue would be should they keep the event only in Indianapolis or spread the locations around the state of Indiana.

3. Medicaid Update – Dr. Alter gave a quick update on HIP 2.0. They actually had the following:
  - a. Since Feb 1<sup>st</sup>, there were 226,000 applications received and, of those, 134,000 individuals were eligible for HIP 2.0;
  - b. The individuals not eligible for HIP 2.0 were found to be eligible for other programs;
  - c. 280,000 total enrollment with HIP 2.0 enrollees that included participants from the old Healthy Indiana Program, those on the waiting list, and members from Hoosier HealthWise;
  - d. Pregnant women will automatically have state plan benefits;
  - e. 70% of the people enrolled in HIP 2.0 are in the "Plus" program;

- f. The Gateway to Work program started May 1<sup>st</sup> and 100,000 individuals has taken advantage of this work training program already;
- g. The Life Chat feature was added as a benefit; and
- h. Employer Link program will start July 1st enrolling employers to provide assistance to employer and employees to pay for their health insurance premium so they can be covered under private health insurance under their company.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

Dr. Alter is working with the Dental Association, the Hygienist Association, and the Dental Assistant Association to find key contacts in Northwest Indiana and Southwest to contact Head Start programs to get the word out about BRUSH!

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Tobacco Prevention relies on word of mouth 1-800-QUITNOW that is free to any Hoosier. It is a telephone counseling service. Their educational material is free.

Carla Chance announced that the National Network for Oral Health Access will have their annual conference from November 15-18, 2015, at the Marriott Downtown, 350 W. Maryland, Indianapolis, IN. This year's theme is "Interprofessional Collaboration to Improve Oral Health Access and Outcomes." For more information go to [www.NNOHA.org](http://www.NNOHA.org)

## **ADJOURN**

The meeting adjourned at 11:38 a.m.

### **Next IOHC Meeting**

September 11, 2015 @ 10:00 a.m. in 5T Conference Room, ISDH

### **2015 IOHC Meetings**

December 11, 2015 @ 10:00 a.m. in 5T Conference Room, ISDH

### **2016 IOHC Meetings**

March 11, 2016 @ 10:00 a.m. in 5T Conference Room, ISDH

June 10, 2016 @ 10:00 a.m. in 5T Conference Room, ISDH

September 9, 2016 @ 10:00 a.m. in 5T Conference Room, ISDH

December 9, 2016 @ 10:00 a.m. in 5T Conference Room, ISDH